

Serial No. 09/760,560

Reply to Office Action of April 13, 2004

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office Action mailed April 13, 2004, Applicant has studied the Examiner's comments and the cited art. Claims 1-38 are currently pending. In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

Amendments

Applicant has amended three paragraphs of the Specification to resolve typographical and grammatical issues discovered during Applicant's review of the Application.

Applicant has cancelled claims 3, 16, 23, and 31, incorporating their limitations into their respective independent claims 1, 14, and 28.

Applicant has amended claims 4, 6, 10, 17, 19, 24, and 32-33 to update dependency information changes necessitated by the cancellation of claims 3, 16, 23, and 31. The amendments do not change the scope of the claims.

Applicant has also amended claim 34 as a result of the cancellation of claim 31 and amendment of claim 28.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 13-17, 27-32 and 34-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Watt, U.S. Patent No. 5,675,615. Claims 3, 16, and 31 have been cancelled, incorporating their limitations into their respective independent claims 1, 14, and 28. Applicant respectfully traverses the remaining rejections.

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to recite the clock synchronization logic as independent of the internal clock line. Applicants have made similar amendments to independent claims 14, 28, and 35. Watt fails to recite such a clock synchronization technique. Instead, Watt recites a clock synchronization logic that uses the output composite clock signal *gclk* to gate an input clock selection signal *fNm* through D-type latch 36 and other internal signals through D-type latch 40. Therefore, Watt fails to anticipate all of the limitations of Applicant's claimed subject matter, which recites the clock synchronization logic as independent of the output of the clock selection circuitry. For these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

Further, with respect to claim 14, Watt fails to recite a plurality of communication controllers, each of which comprises the recited clock selection logic of Applicant's claimed subject matter. The Office Action cannot simply ignore these limitations. For these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

Claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 17, 27, 29-32, 34, and 36-37 depend from allowable claims 1, 14, 28, and 35 and are therefore also allowable. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

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Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5-9, 18-23, 33 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watt, U.S. Patent No. 5,675,615, in view of Chesavage, U.S. Patent No. 6,239,626. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claims 5-9, 18-23, 33, and 38 depend from allowable independent claims 1, 14, 28, and 35 and are therefore also allowable. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

In addition, the Office Action asserts that Chesavage discloses "a first clock reset signal (84a), synchronized to the first clock signal," and "a second clock reset signal (84b), synchronized to the second clock signal" This mischaracterizes Chesavage, which nowhere teaches or suggests that the reset signals 84a and 84b are synchronized to signals SYSCLK0 or SYSCLK1. Furthermore, because Chesavage recites selection among a plurality of phase and frequency synchronized clock signals, the Office Action's motivation for combining the reset signals of Chesavage with the invention of Watt fails. For these additional reasons, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

Claim 8 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chesavage alone. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Chesavage fails to teach or disclose the second clock source as asynchronous to the first clock source. Instead, Chesavage recites selection among a plurality of phase and frequency synchronized clock signals.² For this reason, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Objections

Claims 10-12 and 24-26 are objected to as depending upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 10-12 and 24-26 depend upon allowable independent claims 1 and 14, respectively, and are therefore also allowable. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all issues and rejections have been adequately addressed, that all claims are allowable, and that the case should be advanced to issuance.

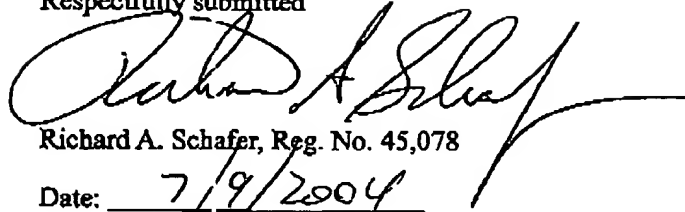
If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss the claims, Applicant encourages the Examiner to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

¹ Paper 1, p. 6.

² Col. 1, lines 25-26.

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Respectfully submitted



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